

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **(Currently amended)** A liquid crystal display device of an in-plane switching mode which comprises a pair of polarizers which are a polarizer at an output side and a polarizer at an incident side and disposed at relative positions such that absorption axes of the polarizers are approximately perpendicular to each other and at least an optically anisotropic member and a liquid crystal cell which are disposed between the pair of polarizers, wherein $n_z > n_x > n_y$ when, with respect to the optically anisotropic member, a refractive index in a direction of an in-plane slow axis is represented by n_x , a refractive index in a direction in-plane and perpendicular to the direction of an in-plane slow axis is represented by n_y , and a refractive index in a direction of a thickness is represented by n_z , each measured using light having a wavelength of 550 nm; and the in-plane slow axis of the optically anisotropic member and the absorption axis of a polarizer disposed closer to the optically anisotropic member are disposed at relative positions approximately parallel or approximately perpendicular to each other, wherein an in-plane retardation R_e (as measured in nanometers) and a retardation in the direction of the thickness R_{th} (as measured in nanometers) of the optically anisotropic member satisfy the following formulae:

$$\underline{160 \leq R_e \leq 340 \text{ and } -350 \leq R_{th} \leq -150,}$$

wherein the absorption axis of the polarizer at the output side and the in-plane slow axis of a liquid crystal of the liquid crystal cell under application of no voltage are disposed at relative positions parallel to each other, and the optically anisotropic member is disposed between the liquid crystal cell and the polarizer at the output side, and

wherein the in-plane slow axis of the optically anisotropic member and the in-plane slow axis of a liquid crystal of the liquid crystal cell under application of no voltage are disposed at relative positions approximately perpendicular to each other.

2-3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously presented) The liquid crystal display device according to Claim 1, wherein the optically anisotropic member comprises a layer comprising a material having a negative value of intrinsic birefringence.

5. (Currently amended) The liquid crystal display device according to Claim ~~[[1]]~~ 4, wherein the layer comprising a material having a negative value of intrinsic birefringence is a laminate comprising a layer of a transparent resin which is laminated to at least one face of a layer of the optically anisotropic member the material having a negative value of intrinsic birefringence.

6. (Original) The liquid crystal display device according to Claim 5, wherein the transparent resin is a polymer resin having an alicyclic structure.

7. (Previously presented) The liquid crystal display device according to Claim 1, wherein a content of residual volatile components in the optically anisotropic member is 0.1% by weight or smaller.

8. (Previously presented) The liquid crystal display device according to Claim 1, wherein a protective film of a polarizer at a side of vision in the liquid crystal display device comprises a low refractive index layer which is formed with aero gel and has a refractive index of 1.36 or smaller.

9. (New) The liquid crystal display device according to Claim 4, wherein the layer comprising a material having a negative value of intrinsic birefringence is a laminate having layers each

comprising transparent resin are laminated to both faces of the layer comprising the material having a negative value of the intrinsic birefringence.

10. **(New)** The liquid crystal display device according to Claim 5, wherein the laminate is obtained by stretching a laminate of a layer of a material having a negative value of intrinsic birefringence and a layer of a transparent resin which is laminated to at least one face of the layer of the material having a negative value of intrinsic birefringence.

11. **(New)** The liquid crystal display device according to Claim 5, wherein the laminate is obtained by coextrusion molding of the transparent resin and the material having a negative value of the intrinsic birefringence.

12. **(New)** The liquid crystal display device according to Claim 5, wherein the transparent resin is a resin exhibiting a total light transmission of 80% or greater through a thickness of 1 mm.